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REPORT
OF THE
HEALTH OFFICER

TO THE
LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF OREGON.

EIGHTH REGULAR SESSION---1874.



SALEM, OREGON:
MART. V. BROWN, STATE PRINTER.
1874.

REPORT.

ASTORIA, OREGON, September 1, 1874.

Hon. L. F. Grover, Governor:

DEAR SIR:—I beg to report that during my official term there has been but little disease of a contagious character requiring the enforcement of the Quarantine Law.

All such cases were, I believe, reported to you at the time of their occurrence, together with my action in the premises.

There have been five vessels quarantined since I have filled the position of Health Officer; three at this port and two at Portland. The total number of cases of small pox that occurred at the different times of quarantining vessels probably has not exceeded more than seven or eight. Just how many developed from these, subsequently, I am not able to state, as some were scattered over the country and others in the City of Portland.

In all cases the usual forms and regulations of quarantine duties were observed, the sick properly cared for and the wants and comforts of passengers duly attended to.

In the cases of quarantine that occurred at Portland, the duties were performed by competent physicians under my directions. This seemed to be quite satisfactory to the City authorities, and saved them from any expense, all of which was borne by the vessels quarantined. Those occurring at this port have been attended without charge for professional or other services. In all cases the actual ex-

penses for taking care of the sick, and materials used for disinfecting purposes have been collected from the vessels quarantined.

The above named cases with one exception (that of the John L. Stephens, which occurred in June, 1872), are the only cases of small pox which I am aware of that have been introduced by the mouth of the Columbia River.

The sanitary condition of passenger-carrying vessels has generally been good—but few cases of typhus or ship-fever occurring among the passengers. There have been some cases of scarletina and measles during the Spring and Summer months—which are not generally deemed of such a nature as to require quarantine duties. I regret that I am unable to furnish the exact number of vessels boarded, but should judge it to be something over five hundred.

I remain respectfully,

Your obedient servant,

S. W. DODD, M. D.,

Health Officer.